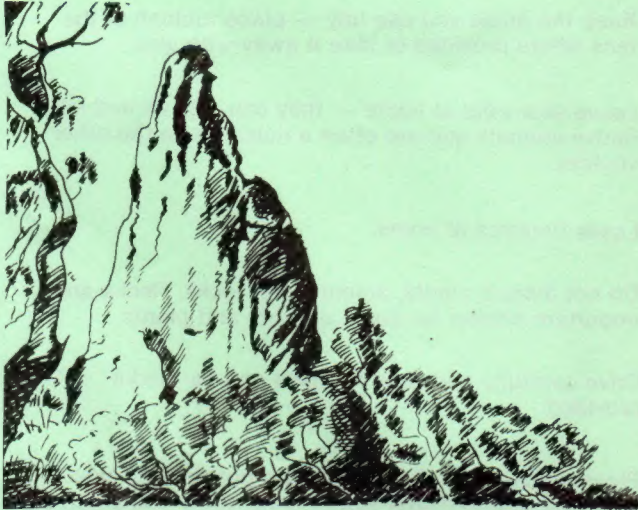


## Warrumbungle

## National Park

National Parks  
& Wildlife Service

Warrumbungle National Park is an area of forested ridges, barren spires and deep gorges. It is ideal for the bushwalker and pack camper; for photographers and bird watchers; or for just watching the sun change colours on the walls of rock.

## ACTIVITIES

Opportunities exist for bushwalking, nature study, photography and rock climbing, depending on your interests and time restrictions. A map of walking tracks is available at Park Headquarters. Rock climbers and pack campers **must** obtain a permit and keep the Ranger advised of their proposed activities and movements within the Park. Any form of climbing on the Breadknife is prohibited.

## FACILITIES

## Camping

There are 4 sites for campers; Camps Pincham, Wambelong, Burbie and Blackman. They have fire places, pit toilets and water. Camp Blackman also has 32 powered sites, septic toilets, showers and basic laundry facilities. Camp Pincham will be closed for regeneration purposes during 1985/86 and on re-opening campers will be required to carry all equipment from the car park.

Access to Camp Burbie is by 4 wheel drive only, and ranger permission is necessary. Bookings for single tent sites are not necessary.

School, youth and other groups may use Camps Elongery, Wambelong and the Woolshed. Because of the limited number of sites available for group use, bookings are necessary. Bookings must be accompanied by a \$10 deposit. Groups may use the laundry and shower facilities at Camp Blackman in the daytime. Coaches are asked to travel **only** in daylight and go direct to marked parking areas as heavy coaches damage shallow water pipes and soft, boggy ground causing erosion.

Canyon Camp is closed to all campers and rental of cabin accommodation will cease after 20 September, 1986.

Many people visit the park for the peaceful surroundings. You are asked not to destroy this atmosphere by noisy behaviour, especially at night.

Please use water carefully, as it is scarce in the park. All water should be boiled before drinking. As there are no kiosk facilities in the park, visitors should bring all their food.

During winter, frosts can be severe, so visitors with cars should use anti-freeze or drain the radiator if the nights are clear and still.

## LOCATION AND ACCESS

The Park can be reached from the east via Coonabarabran, via Coonamble from the west, or from the south through Gilgandra, Tooraweenah and Gumin. When visiting the Park, please check in with the Ranger at the Canyon Camp Park Headquarters, 35 kms from Coonabarabran.

Wet weather can quickly cause all roads to become impassable. After wet weather always check road conditions with the visitor centre.

## FEATURES

## Geology

The rocky spires and domes visible throughout the park are all that is left of a large volcanic centre which was active more than 13 million years ago.

Sometimes lava flowed over the countryside. Sometimes there was explosive activity, throwing out ash and bombs of tephra. Layered rock several hundred metres thick is the result. Eventually the volcanoes plugged their own mouths. Trachyte, a fast cooling lava, blocked the vents shattering the surrounding rocks. Weathering of these has left the harder trachyte plugs towering over the wooded countryside. An outstanding volcanic feature within the park is the Breadknife, a spectacular 90 metre high wall.

Under the volcanic rock lie beds of ancient sandstones (Mesozoic and Permian). In valleys and creek beds these have been exposed by erosion. The enormous pressures and heat generated by the volcanic activity changed much of the sandstone to the harder, more resistant quartzite.

## Flora and Fauna

Sometimes described as the point where east meets west, the Warrumbungle Range supports plant and animal species of the dry western plains and the moist east coast.

Richer soils, formed from the breakdown of volcanic rocks, generally support a woodland dominated by white box trees. On the low nutrient sandy soils and outcrops of volcanic rocks, a woodland of whitegum, narrow-leaf ironbark and black and white cypress pine grows. Low heaths are common in the higher areas.

The sandstone areas produce remarkable displays of wildflowers in spring and early summer, including at least 25 species of wattle, wild irises, pink and purple peas, and white flowering heaths.

The sheltered southern slopes provide suitable living conditions for trees normally associated with the higher rainfall areas of the New England tableland.



Exposed more directly to sunlight, the drier northern aspect supports water conserving plants, more typical of the western plains.

The diversity of landform, microclimate and associated vegetation provide habitats for many animals, including grey kangaroos, wallaroos, red-necked and swamp wallabies and koalas.

Sadly, competition for food and space from feral goats has brought the once plentiful brush-tailed rock wallaby close to local extinction.

Over 180 species of birds have been recorded in the park. The magnificent wedge-tailed eagle is just one of the diurnal birds of prey, and nineteen species of parrot, including the red-winged parrot, brighten the scene. Almost a third of Australia's cockatoo and parrot species are represented in the Warrumbungles.

### History of the Park

Before white settlement, the Warrumbungle Range area provided food and shelter for the Kamilaroi tribe, and some evidence of their occupation has been found in the Park.

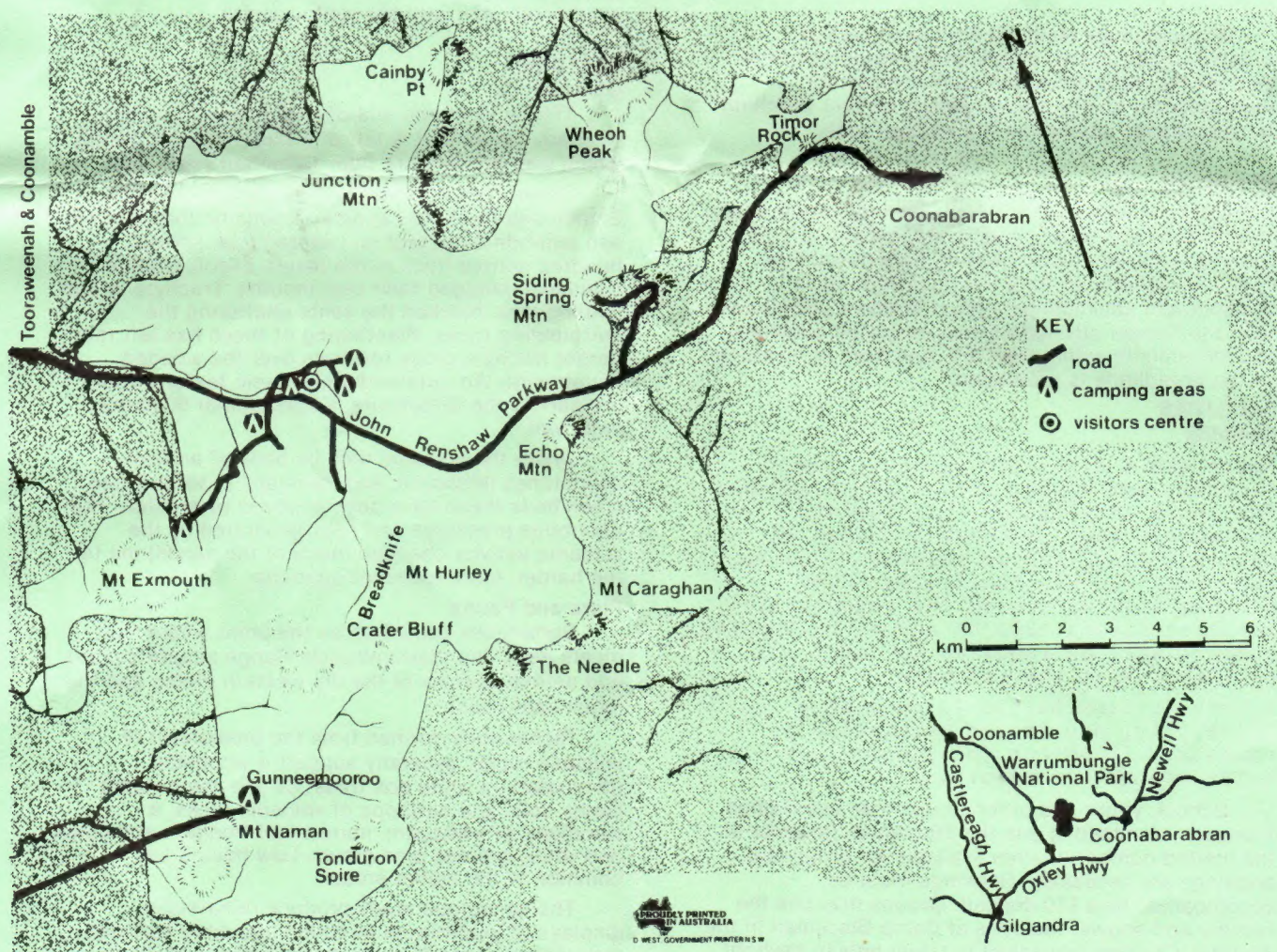
John Oxley, Surveyor General, discovered the Warrumbungles in 1818. It was his second inland expedition and he covered territory to the north and west of the Range.

From its beginning as a recreation reserve in 1953 the park has grown to 21004 hectare National Park, a splendid heritage.

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- Keep the areas you use tidy — place rubbish in the bins where provided or take it away with you.
- Leave your pets at home — they can disturb and kill native animals and are often a nuisance to the other visitors.
- Leave firearms at home.
- Do not disturb plants, animals and rocks. Rocks are important shelter for some animals and plants.
- Drive carefully and keep to roads and car parks provided.
- Please observe all signs. They are provided for your guidance and to assist you to enjoy the areas you visit.



For further information contact:  
**Senior Ranger, NPWS**  
 Government Off. 56 Cassilis Street, **COONABARABRAN**  
 Postal Address: P.O. Box 39, **COONABARABRAN 2357**  
 Telephone: Camping enquires and Cabin bookings (068) 25 4364  
 District Office: (068) 42 1311, (068) 42 1909

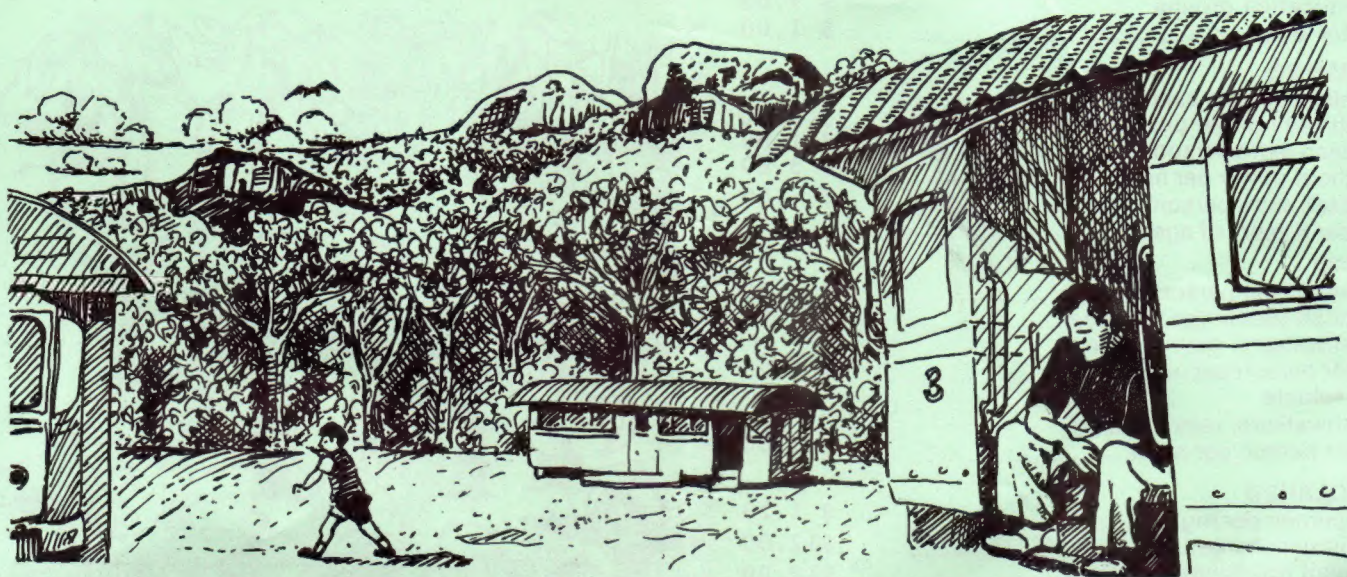


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 189 Kent Street, SYDNEY 2000





# Warrumbungle National Park

National Parks  
& Wildlife Service

## Camping Areas

### CAMPSITES

Camp Blackman  
Camp Burbie  
Camp Pincham  
Camp Wambelong

Conventional vehicle access is available to all the above camps, except Camp Burbie, which can only be reached using 4 wheel drive vehicles with rangers permission. Camp Pincham will be closed for re-vegetation during 1985/86. When re-opened, camping equipment must be carried from the car park to this area.

Camp Blackman has 32 powered sites, septic toilets, showers and basic laundry facilities. The other 3 camp sites have pit toilets and tank water. Campers from these camp sites may use the facilities at Camp Blackman.

Whist families and individuals may camp at Camp Wambelong, they should be aware that this area is also used by large groups. Camp Elongery and the Woolshed are reserved for group camping only. Groups using this Groups using these areas are required to book in advance.

### PACK CAMPSITES

Dows Camp  
Hurleys Camp  
Tonduron  
Gales Bore — Twin Pools

Balor Hut  
Ogma Camp  
Danu Camp  
Gunneemooroo

Except at Balor Hut and Gunneemooroo, no services other than fireplaces are provided. Tank water is provided at Balor Hut, and tank water and pit toilets are provided at Gunneemooroo.

## Rock Climbing

**Rock Climbing** The Warrumbungle National Park Plan of Management allows rock climbing anywhere in the Park with the exception of the Breadknife and Chalker's Mountain. Local, temporary bans may be imposed on any rock to protect endangered fauna. Rock climbing on any rock in close proximity to the walking tracks may be banned to protect visitors.

**Permits:** Any person who intends to rock climb, pack camp or primitive camp, in the Warrumbungle National Park, *must* obtain a permit, issued at the Visitor Centre. These permits are also available by mail. Please forward the correct fees, with the request, to the postal address given below. Rock climbing permits are free but a fee is charged for entry, pack and primitive camping.

The permit system for climbers and campers helps to avoid over-crowding and to protect fragile geological structures and plant and animal communities. If a search and rescue operation has to be mounted, it helps if park staff have some knowledge of your movements. This also helps to avoid unnecessary searches.

Should you become lost, remember all creeks in the southern area of the Park flow to the Newell Highway and Tooraweenah Road. Creeks in the central area flow to the John Renshaw Parkway and Tooraweenah Road.

Contour and 1:30 000 CMA maps are available at the Visitor Centre as well as other publications about the park.

**Campfires:** Open wood fires are permitted throughout the year in authorised fireplaces only (i.e. constructed metal fireplaces). Portable stoves can be used anywhere during the period 1 April to 30 September, but only in authorised fireplaces during the Fire Danger Period 1 October to 31 March.

During a Total Fire Ban or Park Fire Ban, no fire of any type are permitted.

These controls help to reduce the risk of fires, especially in areas of difficult access.



# Fees

(Payable at Visitor Centre upon arrival)

## ENTRANCE FEE and/or DAY VISIT

All cars.....	\$ 2.00
Mini buses.....	\$ 7.00
Education groups.....	\$ 3.50
Coaches.....	\$14.00
Education groups.....	\$ 7.00
Motor bikes.....	\$ 1.00

## CAMPING

### Vehicle, tent or caravan

With 240V power per night for 2 people.....	\$ 5.00
Each extra person.....	\$ 1.00
Without power per night for 2 people.....	\$ 3.80
Each extra person.....	\$ .80
Under 5 years of age.....	

### Group

Coaches per person per night.....	\$ 1.20
Deposit (Bookings required).....	\$12.00
Bushwalkers, rock climbers	
per person per night.....	\$ 1.20

### No vehicle

Bushwalkers, rock climbers	
per person per night.....	\$ 1.00

## WOOLSHED

Per person per night.....	\$ 1.20
Minimum charge.....	\$12.00
Deposit (Bookings required).....	\$12.00

The Woolshed may be closed for area re-generation during 1986.

## BALOR HUT

\$3.00 per car per night plus.....	\$ 1.20
(No power)	
	per head
	per night

## TRAM CABINS

DEPOSIT per 4-berth cabin.....	\$10.00
Per adult — per night.....	\$ 5.00
Per child — per night (under 16).....	\$ 2.00
Under 5 years of age.....	Free
Minimum charge for 1 night.....	\$ 8.00
Minimum charge thereafter.....	\$ 6.00
Cancellation fee.....	\$ 5.00

The Tram Cabin rental will cease after 20 September, 1986.

**NOTE:** Refunds on deposits, Park Fees, Permits, Cabins etc., shall not be granted except under exceptional circumstances.

There is an on the spot litter fine of \$20.

Limited accommodation is provided at Canyon Camp. A number of Sydney corridor trams have each been converted into two flats to serve four people. Each has electric light, a good electric griller, adequate pots, pans and crockery, a small refrigerator and water over sink.

No cutlery, linen or bedding is provided. The beds are double decker bunks with good mattresses but no pillows.

The driver's cabin has a basin with cold water. Hot showers are 1 kilometre away at Camp Blackman. Septic toilets are near the tram cabins.

Advance bookings must be made through the Ranger-in-Charge. It is best to write, including the required deposit, as this secures the booking, however enquiries re vacancies can be made by phoning the Park on (068) 25 4364.

No advance bookings for camping or powered sites are possible.



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D. West, Government Printer  
J.M.F. 11/83 Warrum 3

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## Warrumbungle

## National Park

National Parks  
& Wildlife Service

## Walking Tracks

## WALK THE WARRUMBUNGLES

The walks in Warrumbungle National Park lead you to breathtaking views. But if you can, drag your eyes from distant scenes and take a closer look at the surroundings as you walk. You will see the great variety of habitats found in the park, and the different soils and plants that give each its character.

Help preserve the bush you have come to enjoy by keeping to the tracks.

For all walks starting from Camp Pincham, visitors are requested to park in the signposted area only.



**Remember:** As most huts have now been removed, water must be carried on all walks.

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**1. NATURE TRACK** 1 km, ½-1 hr return. A self-guiding leaflet is available at the Visitors Centre. An easy walk through a small gorge and over a lava flow. A side track also leads to Camp Blackman.

**2. FAN'S HORIZON** 3.6 km, 2 hrs return. The shortest walk to views of the Breadknife and Grand High Tops area.

**3. ALEX GOULD'S CIRCUIT** 4 km, 3 hrs return. Views of the Grand High Tops area. Don't miss the turn off to the top of Macha Tor.

**4. BRESS PEAK** 7.5km, 3-4 hrs return. A very steep ungraded track with no steps — suitable for fit walkers only but very rewarding.

**5. BREADKNIFE, GRAND HIGH TOPS** return via Dagda short cut. 12.5km, 4-5 hrs return. One of the most popular walks, with splendid views.

**6. BREADKNIFE, GRAND HIGH TOPS** return via West Spirey Creek Track. 14.5km, 5-6 hrs return. Similar to the previous walk, but a complete circuit and with good views of Bluff Mountain.

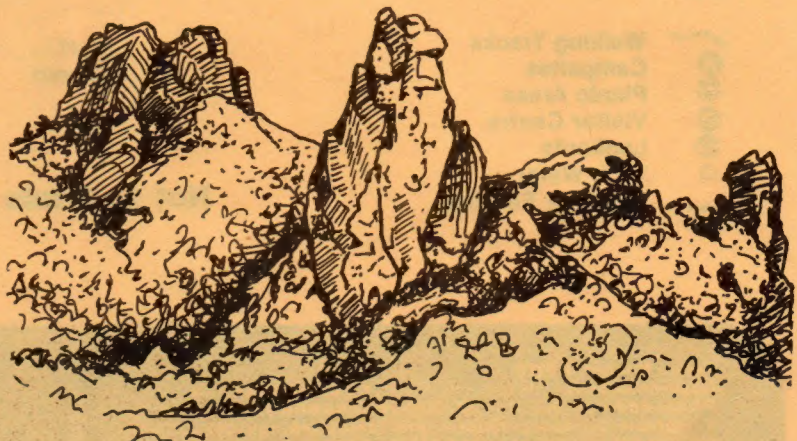
**7. BLUFF MOUNTAIN** 2.4 km, 2 hrs return. Best done with walk No. 6. Wedge-tailed eagles can often be seen riding the air currents.

**8. SPLIT ROCKS CIRCUIT** 4.6 km, 3 hrs return. Best introduction to the variety of habitats in the park. A separate track ascends to the top of the southern peak via a chain and ladder. Return via the same route to the base of the ladder.

**9. BURBIE CANYON** 2 km, 1 hr return. You may see many birds on this walk.

**10. MT. EXMOUTH, CATHEDRAL AND ARCH** via Camp Burbie 12 km, 4-6 hrs. Mt. Exmouth is the highest peak in the park. Burbie Road is impassable to conventional vehicles therefore access to Camp Burbie is by four wheel drive only.

**11. MT. EXMOUTH, CATHEDRAL AND ARCH** via West Spirey Creek. 16 km, 4-6 hrs. An alternative to the above walk.







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# WAMBELONG

NATURE  
TRACK



WARRUMBUNGLE NATIONAL PARK



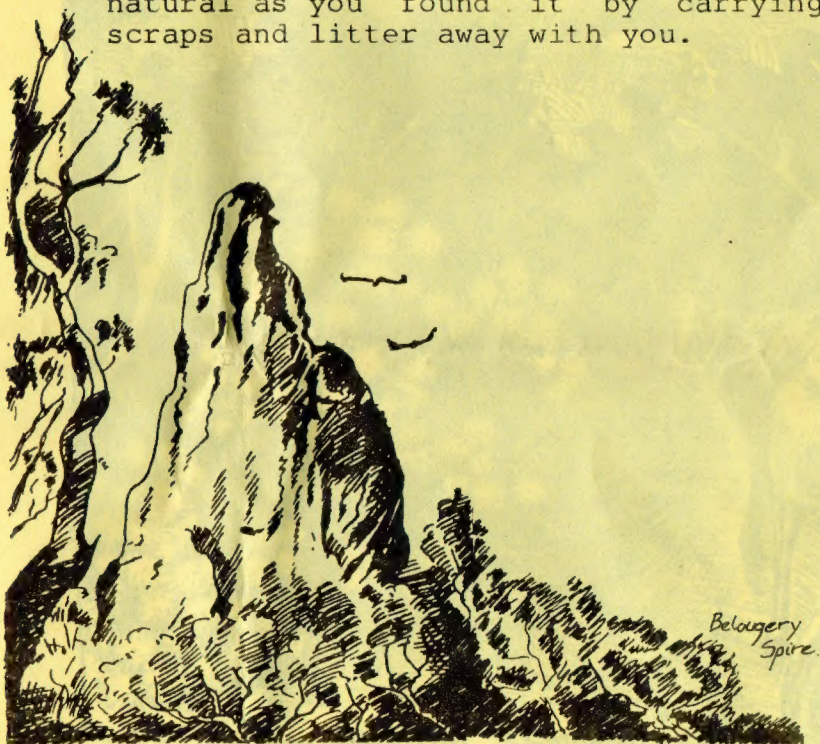
# WAMBELONG

Take an amble along Wambelong ..... This nature track, which starts upstream of the Children's Playground at Canyon Camp, runs approximately one kilometer in a continuous circuit, leading you back to where you started.

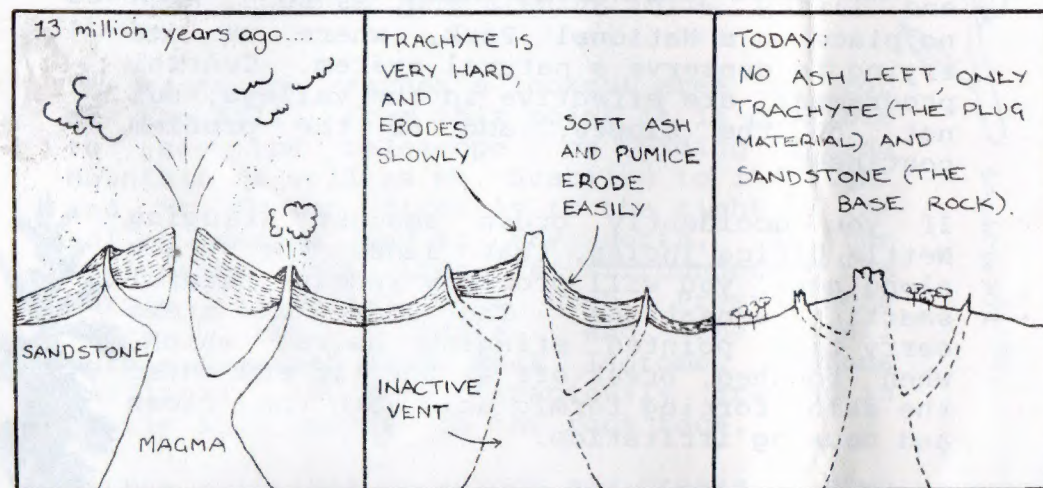
The track passes several of the vegetation types commonly found in the park. Typical landforms and interesting geological features are to be seen from the track.

These notes, compiled by Ranger Naturalist E. Edmondson, may help to make your visit more interesting.

Please remember that other people will come after you, and help to keep the bush as natural as you found it by carrying food scraps and litter away with you.



The Warrumbungle Range of mountains was created approximately 13 million years ago by volcanic activity. The pressure of the molten rock (magma) pushed up the sandstone crust from below until it split in several places and the magma was explosively released. The traditional cone-shaped volcano probably resulted, with smaller side cones and cracks in addition.



Subsequent erosion by the ancient Wambelong Creek and its tributaries since the volcano was formed has reduced the volcanic surface considerably, revealing the sandstone baserock that underlies the volcanic capping and the plugs of harder magma (trachyte) that blocked the volcanic vents when the activity slowed.

The Beloungery Spire is one such exposed "plug".



As you begin the walk, you will notice the large expanse of bare rock to your left. This is a type of rock, called trachyte, typically erodes to this rounded slope, and the weathering is responsible for the etched effect of the rock surface.

You may see rabbits scampering across the grassed area to their warrens in the Native Raspberry. Robus parviflorus, growing at the trachyte flow. Rabbits are feral (introduced and living wild) animals and, as such, have no place in a National Park, where we are trying to conserve a natural system. Control programmes are effective in the valleys, but not on the slopes, and so the problem continues.

If you accidentally brush against Stinging Nettle, Urtica incias, that lines the track along here, you will probably receive painful smarting sensations. The leaves and stems carry fine pointed stinging hairs, which, when touched, break off at the tip and enter the skin, forcing formic acid into the flesh and causing irritation.



Stinging  
Nettle

The pine-like trees lining the creek are River Oak, Casuarina cunninghamiana. River Oak is typically a tree of the watercourses of the coast and western slopes. As it relies on Wambelong Creek for the bulk of its water supply, it is generally confined to the well watered alluvial material adjacent to the creek. The gum tree here is the River Red Gum, Eucalyptus camaldulensis, which is a feature of the inland watercourses throughout mainland Australia. Here in the Warrumbungles, the Red Gum is near its eastern limit of distribution, overlapping with the River Oak which occupies much the same habitat. The trees along the creek flats that have rough bark and look like a Eucalypt are Angophora floribunda, Rough Barked Apple.

When the track winds up out of the little gorge you will find yourself closer to the foliage of the trees which grow below the rockshelf to your left. This is a good place to see the differences between the leaves of the Eucalypt species and the Angophoras. Although they all look like Eucalypts at the first glance, it is possible to tell that the brighter green-leaved, contorted-limbed tree is an Angophora because the leaves are placed opposite each other on the stem, where mature Eucalypts leaves occur alternately along the stem.



EUCALYPTUS

The track now reaches a lookout area on top of the hill. From this point it is possible to see the telescope on Siding Spring Mountain as well as Mt. Scabillon to its right and Mt. Eremon directly to the right of the valley running away to the north. In the springtime this area is surrounded by the purple flowering Mint Bush, Prostanthera nivea, var. induta, and the small purple-flowered herb, Rock Isotome, Isotoma axillaris, is seen tenaciously growing in little soil pockets on the rock face.

Lichen colonises bare rock and breaks it down so that tiny pockets of soil collect in cracks and grooves. Mosses and other little purple flowering Mint Bush, Prostanthera nivea, var. induta, and the small purple-flowered herb, Rock Isotome, Isotoma axillaris, is seen tenaciously growing in little soil pockets on the rock face.

Lichen colonises bare rock and breaks it down so that tiny pockets of soil collect in cracks and grooves. Mosses and other little plants grow on this and create deeper soil which herbs can then colonise. Thus gradually, bare rock is broken down by simple organisms to provide the soil layer vital for the growth of higher plants as well as the animals which depend on them in turn.

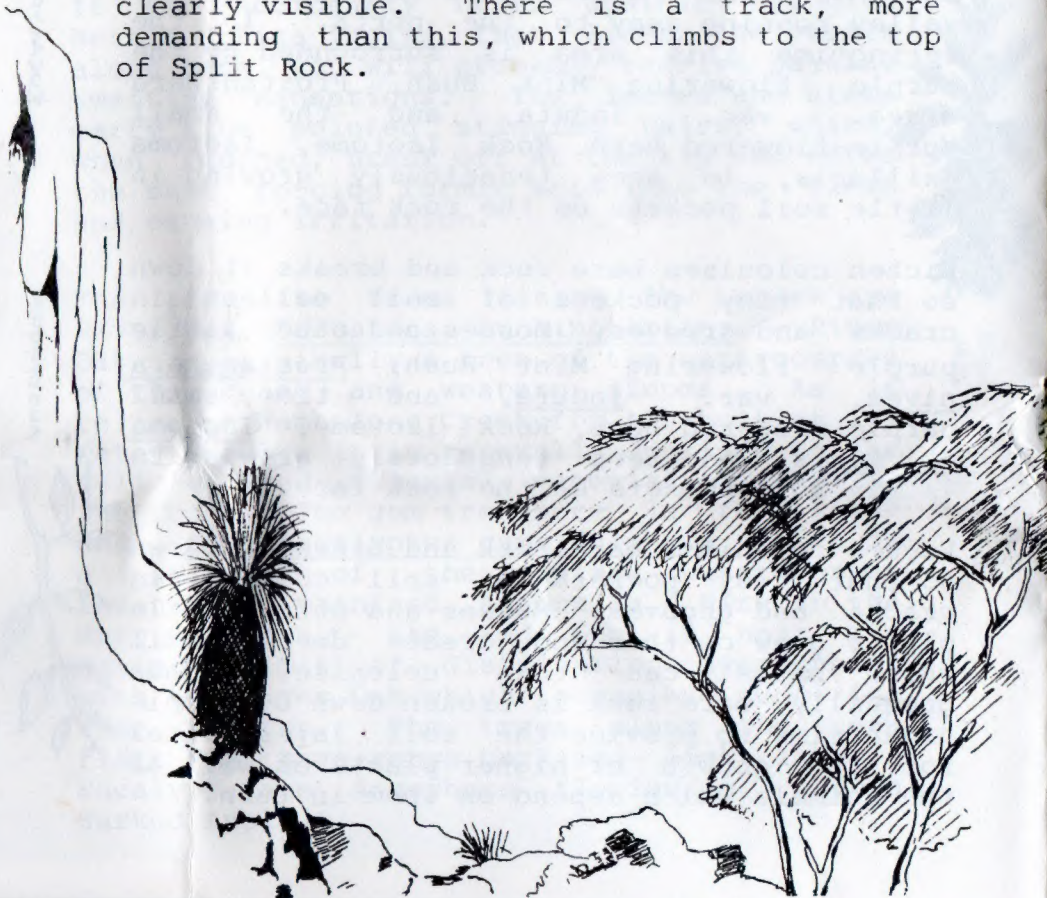


ANGOPHORA



Further along the rock face, even a Eucalypt has managed to get a hold in a little soil pocket, but it is very stunted in comparison with the healthier specimens that the track passes between after it leaves the rockface. This gum is called White Gum or Scribbly Gum, Eucalyptus rossii, and grows very much larger and taller on deeper soils than here.

On the other side of the hill the track follows another open rockface from which you can look down into the gorge through which the creek and the Nature Track passes. The mountain directly in front of you is Split Rock, with the feature that gives it its name clearly visible. There is a track, more demanding than this, which climbs to the top of Split Rock.



Have you noticed little rustles in the rocky areas near the track? In the warm months, reptiles such as little rock skinks and dragon lizards are very common, basking in the sun's warmth and scuttling away when strangers approach. Snakes may also be seen, but are generally very shy.



As the track winds down the hill to complete the circuit, notice the moss growing along the top of the rockface, where the water trickles out of the soil layer further up the slope. When it rains, the water flows across the rockface into channels that are gradually wearing the grooves that we noticed as we passed the bottom of this rockface earlier into the trachyte.

Now that you can see your destination, we hope that you enjoyed the walk. Please feel welcome to approach the Rangers with any questions you may have.



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# MINILAND

## COONABARABRAN N.S.W.





# **The History .....**

Miniland was created by the Zorgdrager family. The site was purchased in 1969 and construction commenced soon after. The first stage was opened in 1972 by Federal Minister Ralph Hunt.

The original idea of Miniland was to build many scale model buildings but this idea was abandoned because of various difficulties. A love of The Flintstones gave the idea for the shop entrance and soon after the first dinosaur was born, (Tyrranosaurus Rex). The roaring monster was so popular that it wasn't long before there were more. Miniland became not so "Mini".

The museum was constructed and completed in 1974 with displays changing over the years. The last creation by the founder of Miniland, Peter Zorgdrager, is the model of Coonabarabran in the 1880's completed just prior to his death in 1982.

In 1984, the business changed hands to Steven and Margaret Hadfield (nee Zorgdrager - daughter) who have continued the progress. Margaret, a talented artist, spent six months painting a magnificent mural of the Warrumbungles, now a major attraction in the museum.

Cleanliness, tidiness, safety and keeping items in top condition is of prime concern but inhibits the progress. Nevertheless, Miniland has continued to grow into a unique attraction.

## **From the Management - Steven and Margaret Hadfield**

We sincerely hope you enjoy your visit and we ask that you keep in mind we are not a corporate conglomerate, just a family with a dream. Thank you for your patronage, and safe journey.



# MINILAND



← COONABARABRAN 9km

SIDING SPRING OBSERVATORIES → 18 km  
WARRUMBUNGE NATIONAL PARK → 18 km



# WARRUMBUNGLES MOUNTAIN MOTEL and HOLIDAY RESORT





# WARRUMBUNGLES MOUNTAIN MOTEL and HOLIDAY RESORT

*For a Quiet Night*

A **B**udget MOTEL

**(068) 421832**

**TIMOR ROAD (P.O. BOX 28)  
COONABARABRAN 2357**

**OPPOSITE MINILAND**

Nearest Accommodation to the Warrumbungle  
National Park and Siding Spring Telescopes.  
9 km. from Coonabarabran

- National Park 29 km
- 3.9 metre Telescope at Siding Spring 18 km
- Crystal Kingdom 10 km
- Aerial Joyflights
- Piliga Scrubland and Wildflowers
- Art Gallery and Pottery Workshop 3 km
- Forestry and Sawmill inspections

Together with the district, the  
Warrumbungles Mountain Motel has much to offer.  
There are 13 units, each able to accommodate 6 persons  
comfortably and containing its own:

- Kitchenette
- Private facilities
- T.V.
- All crockery, cutlery, linen and towels provided
- Electric blankets

The motel stands in 10ha of parkland on the banks of the  
Castlereagh River. There is a saltwater swimming pool  
and there are barbecues (and wood) for your use.

Our shop stocks a good range of groceries, bread,  
meat, milk, soft drinks, maps and post cards.

Your hosts, Ron and Gloria Harris, will do their utmost  
to ensure your pleasant stay and  
welcome group bookings.



# WARRUMBUNGLES MOUNTAIN MOTEL and HOLIDAY RESORT

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a salt water swimming pool.

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Your hosts: Gloria & Ron Harris.

GEELONG Speedy PRINT (052) 77 0450





Warrumbungles  
Mountain Motel No 10514  
(OPPOSITE MINILAND)

Timor Road, Coonabarabran, 2857, N.S.W

P.O. Box ~~44~~ 28

Telephone (068) 42-1832

..... 17 . 9 . ..... 19 86

Receipt is acknowledged of \$ 25:00 for accommodation booking from  
MRS P. C. MILLAR .....

For ..... 2 ..... nights from p.m. 2 / 10 / 19 86

to a.m. 4 / 10 / 19 86.

With thanks.

Signed

G. Harris  
(Agent)

REST IN THE WARRUMBUNGLE MOUNTAINS  
ON THE BANKS OF THE CASTLEREAGH RIVER,  
7 KM. FROM COONABARABRAN

